



## MARIO SOARES, PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF PORTUGAL VISITS IMLI



*President Emeritus of Portugal, Mario Soares with Prof. David Attard (Director, IMLI),  
Prof. Mario Ruivo (Member, Governing Board of the International Ocean Institute)  
and IMLI Class 2006-2007*

IMLI had the privilege of receiving President Emeritus of Portugal, Mario Soares, on October 11, 2006 where a reception was tendered in his honor. President Soares addressed the students and stressed on the importance of studying the uses of the ocean to ensure sustainable economic, social and environmental development.

President Soares is currently involved in the activities of the International Ocean Institute (IOI) based in Malta. He was involved in the debate on the uses of the seas and he had the privilege of presenting the report on ocean uses to the United Nations when he was president of the Independent World Commission on the Oceans. He believes that there is an imperative need to give particular attention to the high seas because it is the place

where many of the violations and acts of misuse of the seas occur, particularly pollution through the discharge of toxic wastes.

During his tenure as President of Portugal he guided his country from “the darkness of dictatorship to the light of democracy”. He is referred to as “The Father of the Nation” in recognition of his contribution to democracy in his country.

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